

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Higher Education Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000645

Senator Simms, Robert asked on 21 October 2015, Proof Hansard page 46

Centre for the Study of Higher Education

Question

Dr Taylor: Sometimes the sector does it themselves. I may have to take this on notice that the Centre for the Study of Higher Education was doing it again without departmental involvement because the sector has an interest in also knowing about the systemic issues about their staff—they do not necessarily need our guidance for that. I will have to take that on notice when they are doing the next stats.

Senator SIMMS: I would be interested to know where that is up to. Is the department planning at all to look at any of those workforce issues? I take your point that it is a matter for individual universities but, at the same time, if there is a systemic issue which the NTU have identified, will there be plans to look at some of those issues?

Answer

The former Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations commissioned the Centre for the Study of Higher Education to prepare the report 'The Australian Academic Profession in Transition' to provide an evidence base for universities to manage their staff resources. The report was published in September 2011 and is available at the following address:

http://www.cshe.unimelb.edu.au/people/bexley_docs/The_Academic_Profession_in_Transition_Sept2011.pdf

The department, through the Promotion of Excellence in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education program, has invited applications for 2016 strategic priority commissioned work grants which includes an examination of emerging models for the academic workforce as an identified priority area.